

Message Text

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SUBJ: CULTURAL DISCUSSIONS WITH KKI

1. CU/EE DEPUTY DIRECTOR WISE ACCOMPANIED BY PAO DACHI CALLED ON KKI (POLGAR AND DREXLER) MAY 10 FOR DISCUSSION OF CULTURAL/EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES. STRESSING THAT HE WAS SPEAKING FOR CU/EE ONLY, WISE PROPOSED A PRELIMINARY EXCHANGE OF VIEWS REGARDING PROGRAM OF CULTURAL/EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES TO BE NEGOTIATED UNDER UMBRELLA CULTURAL/SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENT WHEN SIGNED. FROM CU/EE STANDPOINT, WISE SAID HE BELIEVED IT WOULD BE IN INTEREST OF BOTH SIDES TO CONSOLIDATE AND BUILD ON WHAT HAD ALREADY BEEN ACHIEVED, NAMELY MULTI-REGIONAL AND INDIVIDUAL VISITOR PROGRAMS AND AMERICAN SPECIALISTS. IN ADDITION, WE HOPED IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO PLACE ONE OR PERHAPS TWO SHORT TERM (6 WEEKS) U.S. LECTURERS IN AMERICAN LITERATURE AT SELECTED HUNGARIAN UNIVERSITIES IN 1976-77 ACADEMIC YEAR. FINALLY, WISE NOTED, U.S. SIDE WOULD EXPECT EXCHANGES, INCLUDING FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS, TO BE STRUCTURED TO EXTENT POSSIBLE AND DESIRABLE ON BASIS OF RECIPROCITY.

2. IN RESPONSE, POLGAR, WHILE OFFERING NO IDEAS OF HIS OWN, INDICATED THAT THESE PROPOSALS SEEMED REASONABLE. HE EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH OPERATION OF MULTI-REGIONAL IV PROGRAM SO FAR AND SAID HE WAS

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CONFIDENT THAT INDIVIDUAL IV WOULD PROVE AS SUCCESSFUL.

HE ALSO SAID THAT PLACING OF SHORT TERM U.S. LECTURER IN 1976-77 ACADEMIC YEAR WAS ACCEPTABLE. TURNING TO AMERICAN SPECIALIST PROGRAM, POLGAR THOUGHT THAT IN GENERAL THIS WAS GOOD PROGRAM BUT HE HOPED IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR CERTAIN AMSPECS TO STAY LONGER IN ORDER TO INCREASE THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF HUNGARY AS WELL AS HOLD DISCUSSIONS ON AMERICAN TOPICS. DACHI SAID THIS STRUCK HIM AS GOOD IDEA AND HE HOPED HE COULD COUNT ON KKI TO PREPARE PART OF THE PROGRAM OF AMSPECS WHO COULD STAY A WEEK OR MORE. POLGAR REPLIED HE WOULD BE GLAD TO DO SO.

3. TURNING TO ONGOING NEGOTIATION OF CULTURAL/SCIENTIFIC UMBRELLA AGREEMENT, WISE EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT NEGOTIATIONS WERE NOT GOING FORWARD MORE RAPIDLY. CONSIDERING THE STAWJD DESIRE OF BOTH SIDES TO MOVE AHEAD WITHOUT DELAY AND IN VIEW OF OUR EXPERIENCE IN NEGOTIATING SIMILAR AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, WE WERE FRANKLY SURPRISED AT SLOW PROGRESS THUS FAR. THIS WAS PARTICULARLY SO SINCE SUBSTANTIVE POINTS AT ISSUE APPEARED FEW AND NOT PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT OF RESOLUTION.

4. POLGAR AGREED THAT THERE WERE FEW SERIOUS POINTS TO BE RESOLVED BUT POINTED OUT THAT HGKI PLAYED PRIMARILY COORDINATING ROLE AND HAD TO RECEIVE INPUTS FROM MANY AGENCIES BEFORE HUNGARIAN POSITION COULD BE ESTABLISHED. NEVERTHELESS, HE TOOK NOTE OF OUR CONCERN AT SLOW PACE OF TALKS AND PROMISED TO RESPOND TO OUR LATEST PROPOSALS "IN NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE." WHILE MAINTAINING THAT CONCLUSION OF AGREEMENT HAD HIGHEST PRIORITY, AND WAS NOT CONNECTED WITH NEGOTIATIONS OVER CROWN, POLGAR INTIMATED THAT PROGRESS ON THE CROWN WOULD HELP ACCELERATE PROGRESS ON CULTURAL/SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENT. DREXLER ALSO SUGGESTED THAT PRESENCE OF A SPECIAL U.S. NEGOTIATING TEAM MIGHT SPEED UP TALKS. DACHI REPLIED THAT, AS HUNGARIANS KNEW, EMBASSY WAS FULLY EMPOWERED TO NEGOTIATE FOR U.S. SIDE.

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5. BOTH POLGAR AND DREXLER THOUGHT THAT REMAINING POINTS AT ISSUE, INCLUDING LENGTH OF AGREEMENT AND REVIEW MACHINERY, COULD BE RESOLVED WITHOUT GREAT DIFFICULTY GIVEN A WILLINGNESS TO COMPROMISE ON BOTH SIDES. DREXLER IN PARTICULAR WONDERED HOW STRONGLY U.S. SIDE WAS TIED TO TWO-YEAR AGREEMENT SINCE THIS WAS DIFFERENT FROM EVERY OTHER AGREEMENT WHICH HUNGARIANS HAD CONCLUDED. DACHI AND WISE EXPLAINED

THAT INITIAL SHORTER AGREEMENT WAS STANDARD U.S.
PRACTICE WHICH HAD WORKED TO SATISFACTION OF BOTH SIDES
IN OTHER CASES. QUESTION OF IREX ALSO DISCUSSED,
WITH KKI REPS EXPRESSING MORE PERPLEXITY THAN RESISTANCE
TO IDEA OF PRINCIPAL, ALTHOUGH OSTTENSIBLY PRIGHTE,
ACADEMIC EXCHANGE ORGANIZATION BEING OMITTED FROM
UMBRELLA AGREEMENT.

6. BEFORE DEPARTING, DACHI SUGGESTED THAT IT MIGHT
BE USEFUL FOR ALL CONCERNED IF AT SOME TIME POLGAR
OR DREXLER OR BOTH COULD ACCEPT INVITATION TO VISIT
U.S. ON IVP GRANT. POLGAR QUICKLY RESPONDED THAT
THIS WOULD BE DIFFICULT AS IT WOULD BE MISUNDERSTOOD
THROUGHOUT THE HUNGARIAN BUREAUCRACY. THEY MIGHT VIEW
IT AS TAKING AWAY PLACES FROM MORE IMPORTANT POTEN-
TIAL VISITORS.
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